

THE

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SHEKEL

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HIGHLIGHTS

AINA Announces Second Convention

Watermarks on Ottoman Paper Money

A Medal Honors Desert Cave Find

Palestine Currency Board 1-Pound Notes

Numismatic Value Quotient?

Tokens of the IGCAM

World Growth of Israel Collectors

Aleph Beth

Medals of the Holy Land

AINA Club Activities

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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF A.I.N.A.

THE SHEKEL is the official publication of the AMERICAN ISRAEL NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION, INC. and will appear quarterly with the purpose of establishing an authoritative source of information and knowledge pertaining to numismatics of Modern and Ancient Israel. *THE SHEKEL* will bring to all numismatists the most current information available with reference to the foregoing.

THE SHEKEL will exist only for the benefit of its readers. To further that purpose, it will coordinate the activities of all with the hope that there will be a meaningful interchange of information, views and ideas through its pages.

THE SHEKEL will strive to be informative, interesting, educational and entertaining. To that end, it will endeavor to obtain articles and treatises from leading authorities in the United States, Israel and from other countries.

Finally, *THE SHEKEL* will be of interest not only to advanced collectors and numismatists but also to those just starting out on that delightful path leading to greater understanding and knowledge of Israeli numismatics.



THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

While you are reading these pages, I am with your friends and family members in Israel . . . for these are the weeks of the Annual Study Tour to Israel which has been such an outstanding and beneficial activity of

AINA. As you surely must know, there have been many kinds of numismatic tours by many organizations of private groups over the year, but it took your AINA to show that a regular plan for members to visit the source of their numismatic interest (and Judaic-Christian heritage) could be a successful venture.

I am frankly delighted (but also somewhat amazed) that so many members go once; and then want to go again, and even again. There is an impressive list of AINA members who have made the trip not TWICE, but

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NEW YORK TO HOST GREATER NEW YORK COIN CONVENTION MAY 2-5, 1974

Barely months after the smashingly successful First Convention of the *American Israel Numismatic Association* in May, 1973, plans are already set and in action for a follow-up success, reports AINA president and Convention Chairman, Morris Bram. The *Second Annual AINA Convention* will be a key element of the *Greater New York Coin Convention* to be held on May 2, 3, 4 and 4th at the *New York Sheraton*, scene of the first convention.

"Committees have been formed and are already in action" stated Mr. Bram, who stated that the attendance of over 6,000 at the 1973 event is likely to be passed for a number of major reasons. "Larger local Israel Numismatic Societies; participation in the Convention by a larger variety of numismatic groups; another major Bourse; numerous exciting exhibits; and a variety of educational events all will prove to be tremendous traffic-getters", said Mr. Bram.

Starting at 9:00 AM on Thursday, May 2 with the set-up of booths and exhibits and closing on Sunday, May 5th at 5:00 PM, the four-day event will see such unique events as: the *Reunion of AINA Study Tour Members*; meetings of the *Board of Directors of the Grand Central Coin Club GENA*, and of *AINA*; sessions of a major auction by *Paromount*; meetings of the *Society of Medical Numisma-*

tists, *Young Numismatists of the ANA*; and a banquet to be addressed by numismatic world leaders.

Committees have been established to handle everything from *Exhibits to Security* and the past experience of the convention volunteer workers will insure smoother flow at the *Registration Desk* and a first-hand knowledge of the *New York Sheraton* facilities will assist the hundreds of expected out-of-town guests.

Reports have been made of planned bus-loads of visitors from Massachusetts, New Jersey, Connecticut and other nearby states so that hopes of attendance of 7,000 or more have been made by a number of the convention workers.

The convention headquarters will be the *New York Sheraton*, located at 56th Street at Seventh Avenue at the top of the Times Square area and just below the beautiful Central Park. Excellent food and refreshment facilities in and near the hotel and the nearby theatres, movies and entertainment centers of the Times Square area make the choice of the Sheraton a particularly welcome one to the out-of-town visitors.

The meetings are open to the general public; there will be no admission charge.

GREATER NEW YORK COIN CONVENTION

Sponsored by AINA

May 2, 3, 4, 5, 1974

New York Sheraton Hotel — 7th Avenue at 56th Street

Morris Bram, *Convention Chairman*

Bourse Chairman—Vincent Alones, Frank Stickel, Alan Weinberg
Educational Forum

Exhibit Chairman—Jackson Storm, Roger Storm

Club Coordinators—Ben Spencer, Irvin Stoff

Security—Vincent Alones, Arthur Reich, Jackson Storm

Registration—Irving Golum, Michael Granis, Steve Weiner

Banquet—Walter Stefanacci, Lou Wasserstrom

Auction—Dave Greenberg

AINA Booth—Dave Gottlieb, Roy Miller

Publicity—Morton Jay Zerder, George Gilbert

Cocktails—Al Yatkowitz

Tours Reunion—Moe Weinschel, Ed Janis, Irvin Stoff

Reception & Hospitality—Moe Weinschel, Irvin Stoff

Young Numismatists of the AINA—Alan Weinberg

Awards, Medals & Badges—Nathan Sobel, Vincent Alones

Property Engineers—Vincent Alones, Agnes Alones, Jackson Storm, Roger Storm

Program

Thursday, May 2

9:00 AM Dealers and Exhibits set up
11:00 AM Registration opens
12:00 PM Bourse & Exhibits open to public
7:00 PM Paramount Auction Sale
7:30 PM Board of Directors Grand Central C.C.
8:00 PM Forum Ancient Judaica
9:00 PM Closing of Bourse and Exhibits

Friday, May 3

9:00 AM Registration opens
10:00 AM Bourse & Exhibits open to public
7:00 PM Paramount Auction—second session
8:30 PM Educational Forum
9:00 PM Closing of Bourse and Exhibits

Saturday, May 4

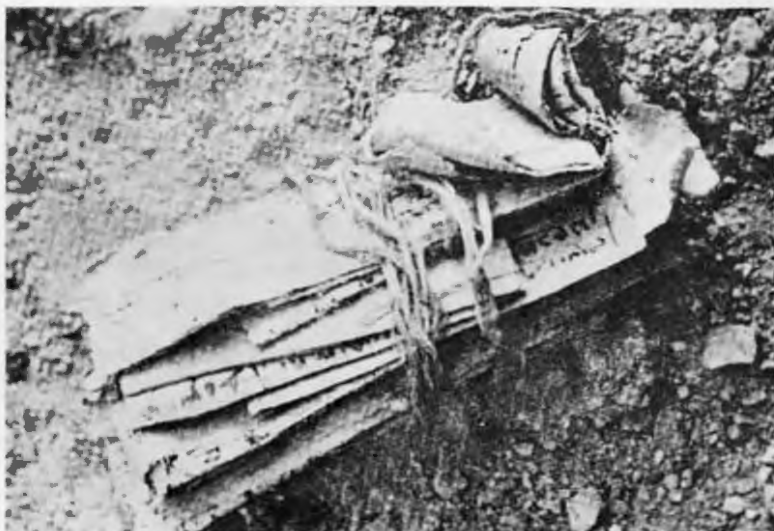
(Mrs. DeFrancisci's Birthday)

9:00 AM Registration opens
9:00 AM AINA Board and Advisory Council Session
9:30 AM Bourse and Exhibits open to public
1:00 PM Reunion of AINA Tours
1:30 PM Paramount Auction, Final session
4:00 PM Society of Medical Numismatics
6:30 PM Bourse and Exhibits close
7:30 PM Cocktail hour
8:30 PM Banquet and presentation

Sunday, May 5

10:00 AM Registration opens
10:30 AM Bourse and Exhibits open to public
10:30 AM Young Numismatists of ANA meeting
12:00 AM AINA clubs meeting
2:00 PM GENA Board of Directors meeting
4:00 PM Exhibit Room closes
5:00 PM Convention Closes

THE MEDAL THAT HONORED



by Dr. Saul Needleman

The *Second Revolt of the Jews* against the Romans, the war of Bar Kochba, took in 132-135 C.E. That this uprising actually took place is well-documented in Jewish sources such as the *Talmud* and *Midrash* and in non-Jewish documents written within one to two hundred years after the event. No historian such as Josephus came forth to record the details of the *Revolt* as had been the case during the *First Revolt*.

As a result, specific details of the circumstances giving rise to this major Jewish rebellion are so scanty that the precise reasons leading to the onset of the *Revolt* and even information about the exact name of its leader remained in doubt until the publication of certain recent archeologic discoveries over the past decade.

In 1960, a careful scientific exploration of caves in part of the Judaean desert adjacent to the armistice line with Jordan yielded a large number of artifacts and papyri which went far towards suggesting the course of events precipitating the *Revolt* and clarified for the first time apparent anomalies in the name of the leader whose title it bears.

Archeologists already had explored En-gedi, a late stronghold of Bar Kochba. In 1953, 1955 and again in 1960, scientists of *The Hebrew University*, the *Israel Exploration Society* and the *Department of Antiquities* in conjunction with the *Israel Defense Forces* investigated caves in the Nahal Se'elim and Nahal Hever districts of the desert.

THE FIND IN A DESERT CAVE



At the former site were found some small artifacts together with two Roman coins, one of Elagabalus (218-222 C.E.) and one of Severus Alexander (222-235 C.E.). All during this period reports continued to filter into Israel of finds by nomadic Arabs of ancient documents and other artifacts recovered from undisclosed caves in the Judaeen desert. Because valuable historic documents were being illegally removed from Israel and made inaccessible to Israeli scientists, in 1960, it was decided to undertake a definitive exploration of the desert dividing the area among several recognized investigators.

It was in Hall C of a cave in the Nahal Hever district of the Judaeen desert, under Prof. Yigael Yadin, that a bundle of ancient papyri was found—letters from on Shimeon Ben Kosiba

(in Aramaic *Simeon Bar Kochba*), President over Israel, to his commanders at En-gedi—which after 1800 years created a real “living” personality from a legendary folklore hero.

Dio Cassius wrote at the beginning of the 3rd century that the actions of Hadrian in Judaea “*caused a war of no slight importance nor of brief duration*” since the Jews would not tolerate foreign races settling in their city and foreign religious rites being planted there. Eusebius however claims that Aelia Capitolina was established only after the war. Other sources point out that the harsh rule of Tinnēus Rufus, Roman governor of Judaea, and the general disillusionment of the Jews who had hoped that Hadrian would rebuild an independent Jerusalem, were precipitating actions leading to the *Bar Kochba Revolt*. It is more

probable that as Yavneh (Jamnia) was established as a new center of religious studies following the destruction of the Temple and cultic rites, the old spirit of Judaism continued to smoulder. The Diasporic communities in exile were reinforced by new refugees still leaving the Holy Land after the war with Vespasian and Titus. And there, as in Palestine, the messianic yearnings of the Jews led to revolt after revolt against continuing Roman tyranny and interference with their religious practice.

Bar Kochba (or Kokba)

The name *Bar Kochba* (or Kokba)—son of the star—appears in Christian sources. Jewish sources refer to Bar (or Ben) Kosiba—son of the liar. It is not known if this name was applied after the revolt failed—or more likely, if the family name of Koziba was changed during the *Revolt* in accordance with the statement of Rabbi Akiba “*There shall go forth a star (KWKB) out of Jacob (Num. 24:17). This is the King Messiah*”. One of the trove letters in particular establishes the correct spelling and pronunciation of his name. None of the letters is written in the first person singular by Shimeon or bears the same handwriting since these letters represent official orders dictated by Bar Kochba to scribes.

While Hadrian was in Egypt and Syria, the Jews remained relatively quiet but, when he left the area, war broke out.

Under Bar Kochba, the Jews seized strategic places and fortified them with walls. They built underground tunnels and located caves to serve as potential refugee places. Unlike the *First Revolt*, the *Second Revolt* against the Romans was under the direction of a single leader. From the trove of letters found in the cave of Nahal Hever, Bar Kochba emerges as a strong tough man with obvious characteristics of leadership. He ruled imperviously and concerned himself with minor details taking charge of both the economy and

the army. He promoted Jewish nationalism in requiring the use of Hebrew and in maintaining Jewish religious practice.

Many of the letters are addressed to Yehonathan, son of Be'ava, alone or together with Masabala, son of Shimeon (not Bar Kochba). These were apparently the military commanders of En-gedi. These letters deal with several subjects: one with confiscation of wheat and its transfer to safe custody with Bar Kochba; another with prohibiting shelter to any man of Tekoa, a Biblical city near Bethlehem, which was the center of shirkers from the battlefronts; and still others with providing of the “four kinds”—reference to the palm branches (lulavim), citrons (ethrogim), myrtles (hadasin) and willows (aravin)—correctly “tithed” (set in order) for use in the feast of *Succoth*.

Many Languages

The request is made in the midst of the war and expresses difficulty in obtaining donkey loads of the required impliments for the feast of booths or tabernacles for the army. Several letters deal with the arrest of specific individuals and threaten punishment of orders are not obeyed. One letter admonishes the commanders of En-gedi because they “*care nothing for your brothers (in arms)*”. Most of the letters are written in Aramaic, some in Hebrew, Nabataean, Aramaic and two in Greek. The latter are important in that they confirm documents which state “*and many outside nations (non-Jews) were joining for eagerness of gain*”. Several letters attest to ownership of property in Nabataea by various Judaeans including a woman called Babata—in the latter case, claims for legal redress of various kinds filed by her in Nabataean courts. Others represent “tied” deeds and receipts for payment of rents.

In addition to the letters, bits of Biblical scripts, fragments of the *Book of Numbers* and *Psalms*, baskets of cosmetics and cooking implements, glass plates, keys and the most com-

plete sets of Jewish clothing of the Roman period, two coins were found in the cave. The first was a bronze found on the ledge just outside the cave entrance (M214, R202). It has on one side a bunch of grapes with "Shimeon" and on the other side a palm tree with "of the Freedom of Jerusalem". The large bronze (M211, R204) has the vine leaf with "of the Freedom of Jerusalem" and a reverse similar to that of the other coin.

Julius Severus came from Britain to Judaea to fight Bar Kochba. He made use of the 10th (Frentenis), 3rd (Cyrenaica), 4th (Scythica), 2nd (Trajana), 22nd (Distrajana) and 6th (Ferrata) Legions as well as the Syrian navy to lay siege to Jewish strongholds rather than using open warfare. Though the Jews lost 50 fortresses, 985 villages and 580,000 people, it is significant that Severus found it necessary to omit the usual salutation in his report of the war to the Roman senate—"I and my army are well".

Bar Kochba made his final stand at Bethar. In Jewish tradition, the fall of Bethar in August, 135 C.E. is equated with the destruction of the First and Second Temples.

In commemoration of the discovery of the Bar Kochba letters, *The Government of Israel* issued a medal in bronze (59 mm, No. 512) and silver (35 and 59 mm, Nos. 513 and 514) which shows on the obverse a view of the Judaeian hills in the background with two members of the cave expedition climbing a rope ladder into the entrance of the Cave of Letters inside an irregular incuse.

The inscription in Hebrew at the top is "Survey Expedition to the Judaeian Desert Caves in the Twelfth Year of the State of Israel". The inscription at the bottom in English reads "Expedition to the Judaeian Desert Caves 1960". The reverse shows the bundle of letters within an incuse overlaid with a coin of the Bar Kochba Revolt (M172, R192). The inscription in Hebrew round the rim reads "Shimon, Prince of Israel" and in English, also at the rim "Bar Kokhba War 132-135 C.E.". At the top rim in ancient Hebrew script "Shimon Bar-Kokhba, Prince of Israel". On the edge of the State emblem and the words "State of Israel" in Hebrew and English. The medal was designed by Jacob Zim.



The obverse and reverse of a one-of-a-kind bronze medallion, approximately 1,500 years old, which has just been donated to the Israel Museum in Jerusalem. A gift of Giselle and David Littman of Switzerland, the well-preserved medallion is believed to have been minted in the days of the Roman Caesar Philippus, whose profile is clearly visible on the obverse. Medallions, recognizable by their large size and raised edges, were only rarely minted in ancient Israel.

THE WATERMARKS OF THE OTTOMAN PAPER MONEY

by Samuel Lachman, Haifa

Some of the early banknotes of the Ottoman Empire have been found with papermaker's watermarks. The first Ottoman banknotes bearing an official watermark were issued in 1877 (1294 H): the 100 *gurush* note (orange), (fig. 1) and the watermark (fig. 2). It reads '*devlet-i aliye*' (*Sublime Government*). The watermark measures 98 x 55 mm. Each note has the watermark in centre. A similar 50 *gurush* note in blue was also issued.

The seven emissions of the notes of the *Ottoman Public Debts Administration* were issued between 12 April 1915 and 28 March 1918. They remained in circulation in Turkey until 4 September 1928. These notes were found with watermarks of the multiple type:

A. *Tuning forks.*

1. from right top to left bottom at an angle of 60° (Fig. 3)
2. from left top to right bottom at an angle of 30° (Fig. 4)
3. from right top to left bottom at an angle of 30° (Fig. 5)

(This is always the same paper placed differently into the printing press.)

B. *GD Z - hooks*

1. Vertical
2. Horizontal (Fig. 6)

These occur sometimes both in one and the same series.

C. *Small quatrefoils* (Fig. 7)

D. *Squared stars and quatrefoils* (Fig. 8)

Watermarks (A and B) were used by *Giesecke and Devrient, Leipzig, Germany*. Watermarks (C and D) occur on notes printed by the *Reichsdruckerei, Berlin* (the German government printing works). The following list shows particulars of notes up to 100 *livres* examined by the writer.

Date of Issue. Denomination. Watermark.

Mahmed V.

30 Mart 1331, 1 livre, A. 1
(12 April 1915), 5 livres, A. 1

18 Tisrinievvel 1331, ¼ livre, B. 2
(31 October 1915), ½ livre, B. 1 and B. 2
1 livre, A. 1
5 livres, A. 1

22 Kanunuevvel 1331, 5 piastres, B. 1 & B. 2
(4 January 1916), 20 piastres, B. 1
¼ livre, B. 2
½ livre, B. 1
1 livre, A. 1

6 Agustos 1332, 5 piastres, B. 1
(19 August 1916), 20 piastres, B. 1
½ livre, B. 2
1 livre, A. 1, A. 2, and C
5 livres, A. 1
10 livres, C
50 livres (fig. 9), D

4 Subat 1332, 5 piastres, B. 1
(17 February 1917), 20 piastres, C
½ livre, B. 2
1 livre, A. 2 and C
2½ livres, C
10 livres, C
28 Mart 1333, 5 livres, A. 1 and A. 3
(28 March 1917), 25 livres, C
100 livres, D

Mehmed VI.
28 Mart 1334, 2½ livres, C
(28 March 1918), 5 livres, A. 3
10 livres, C

Figure 1
100 Gurush
note —
orange



Figure 2



Figure 4



Figure 3



Figure 5

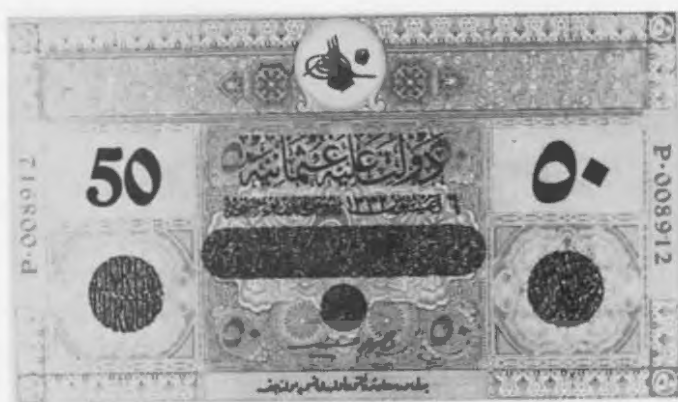


Figure 9
Original
is 210 x 130mm



Figure 6



Figure 8



Figure 7

The notes bear the dates of the laws of authorization and *not* dates of issue. The date 28 Mart 1334 is well within the reign of *Mehmed V*, but the notes bear the tughra of *Mehmed VI*. They were therefore issued *after* 3 July 1918.

It is quite possible that further varieties exist, and the writer welcomes any information about them, as well as particulars of other notes not in the list. With regards to the higher denominations, no proper information is available. From the serial numbers it can be deduced that the 500 *livres* was printed by the *Reichsdruckerei*, and the 1000 *livres* by *Giesecke &*

Devrient. The 50,000 *livres* note is only known from the *Stock Exchange Guide* of 1925. This note would have been issued *for inter-bank use only*. The serial numbers seem to indicate as printers *Giesecke & Devrient*.

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Samuel Lachman. — *Ottoman Banknotes. Quarterly Journal of the International Banknote Society*. Vol. 12 Nos. 4 and 5 (3rd and last quarter 1973), pp. 217/26 and 280/85.

BEN-GURION COMMEMORATIVE COIN ANNOUNCED BY ISRAEL

"A new coin commemorating David Ben-Gurion will be issued by Israel in 1974," announced Mr. Yitzhak Avni, Director-General, IGCAM. "The new coin will be minted in gold, with denominations of IL 250.00 and IL 100.00; and in Sterling silver, in the denomination of IL 10.00. Mintage figures and marketing details will be released at a later date", Mr. Avni stated.

David Ben-Gurion, founding father of the State of Israel and its first Prime-Minister, passed away at the age of 87 in December, 1973. He led Israel through its formative years; his vision, his energy and his intellectual brilliance earned him a prominent place among world leaders. The pinnacle he achieved in Jewish history is both unique and distinguished.

In tribute to Ben-Gurion's memory, the Governor of the Bank of Israel, Mr. Moshe Sanbar, concurred with the Management of IGCAM in approving the issue of the Commemorative Coin.

AINA To Double Members

You can help double the membership of AINA—just by getting one friend, or one neighbor or one relative to join. It's as easy as that.

ISRAEL 6-COIN SETS ANNOUNCED

The 1974 Israel 6-coin sets will be offered in April, together with the 1974 *Independence Day* Commemorative Coin. The late arrival of the coins is a direct consequence of the *Yom Kippur War* and relates to the mobilization of much of the IGCAM personnel for military service.

The new four-color catalog (in English) will be available in April, another war-delayed delivery.

A DELAYED CREDIT AND SOME CORRECTIONS

Recent issues of *The Shekel* have incorporated authorized reprints of numismatic items from the pages of the *Encyclopedia Judaica*. We have just learned that the authoritative material provided on the subject of coinage of the Herodian Era was prepared by Arie Kindler, Director of the *Kadman Numismatic Museum*.

In a letter to the *Editor*, Mr. Kindler advises that *Figure No. 79 (Shekel, Fall, 1973, p. 4)* illustrates a hoard of coins of Alexander the Great, pre-dating the Herodian Dynasy by some 300 years. *Figure 18* on page 5 are coins of Mattitiah (the last Hashmonaeon) and should not be connected with the Herodian Dynasty. On page 24, the reverse is erroneously upside-down.

AVNI REPORTS ON WORLD GROWTH OF ISRAEL COIN COLLECTORS

Since the Yom Kippur war started on Oct. 6, more than 2,000 numismatists around the world, plus a similar number in Israel, have subscribed to coins offered by the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corp., Jerusalem, director Yizhak Avni told Ernie Meyer, feature writer of the *Jerusalem Post*, recently.

"This figure is much higher than the normal increase," Avni said. Citing subscriber figures of 5,000 in Israel in September, 1972, he said there are now 32,000 on the firm's mailing list.

Subscribers abroad now number over 40,000, representing the United States, German, Italy and Switzerland, in order of interest in the Israel series of coins and medals.

Avni told Meyer that 90 per cent of the subscribers want to buy commemorative coins of Israel, with 10 per cent showing interest in medals.

Citing his opinion for the growing of interest in coins of Israel, Avni mentioned outstanding graphic design; the story behind each coin; and the corporation's conservative mintage policy.

"In the last 10 years, demand for our coins has always exceeded supply," Avni said. He added, "That is because we mint limited amounts and strictly adhere to our announced figures. Despite the fact that we compete with over 40 countries, which also mint special coins and medals, ours are perhaps the most popular on the market. That market is estimated to include some eight million collectors in the United States alone."

"It is a well-known fact that 99 per cent of collectors buy because of the anticipated appreciation of their coins,

and as a safe investment," Avni averred. He added, "But we see our work as an additional tool of Israel's information service abroad. Through our coins, which always come with folders explaining the event commemorated, we win many friends."

Citing the value of the firm in Israel as a contact for interest in backing the current war effort, Avni said, "For many people overseas, our coins are the only link with Israel. Since we are the only address they know here, we are the recipients of many donations for the war effort."

Meyer observes that among letters received by the Jerusalem coin firm one from Naples, Italy dated Oct. 17, directing the corporation to donate \$500 from his standing account to the war effort; a West German subscriber said, "Cancel my \$50 order of coins and give the money to the war chest instead."

Avni cited personnel figures of the corporation increasing to 35 from 30 over the past 10 years, while net profits increased from \$83,300 in 1963 to an anticipated \$9,440,000 in 1973.

"No Israel commemorative coin has ever fallen below issue price," Avni stated. He continued, "On the contrary, all have appreciated, some by thousands of per cent. The five pound nominal value Seafaring coin, sold to subscribers for 10 pounds (\$2.38), today has a market value of about \$405."

"Because Israel has been constantly in the news in the last three months, the Israel coin market overseas is booming," Avni concluded.

by Jack H. Fisher

AINA 2497

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PALESTINE CURRENCY BOARD ONE POUND NOTES

Contacts have been made with collectors, dealers and researchers since articles appeared pertaining to the Palestine Currency Board 100 pounds notes, 50 pounds notes, 10 pounds notes and the 5 pounds notes. A request for information pertaining to my research over the past approximately 10 year period on these and the 1 pound notes was difficult to obtain. Information received from government sources was to the effect that records were not preserved as to dates of issue and quantity issued. Notes that were cancelled and destroyed were not recorded relative to issue dates.

The history of the 1 pound notes commences with the year 1924. A study made by a committee appointed by the high commissioner of Palestine submitted a report which proposed the appointment of a currency board. It would supervise a Palestine currency based on the pound sterling with sterling securities held in London to secure all currency placed in circulation.

The committee suggested a recommended counting unit of small value to the pound sterling to retain the value of a decimal system. The Palestine Currency Board was constituted. The members and secretary were appointed by a minute of the Secretary of State for the Colonies dated June 15, 1926, and the unit adopted was the Palestine pound to be equal in value to the British pound sterling, plus being divided into 1,000 mils.

The determination of the board was that the notes to be issued be in the denominations of 500 mils, one pound, five pounds, 10 pounds, 50 pounds and 100 pounds. The one pound note was determined to have as pictorial representations on the obverse the Dome of the Rock of Jerusalem and the reverse a representation of King David's Tower and Citadel in Jerusalem. It was also determined that the size of the note be 166 and 89 millimeters with obverse colors black, purple, green and yellow and reverse color of green.

Official records of the issue dates of one pound notes have been pursued for many years without success; it is likely such records are just not available. The list of one pound notes compiled to date represent all dates located and verified by the author to date. The listing is as follows:

September 1, 1927
September 30, 1929
April 20, 1939
January 1, 1944

The questions submitted by individuals interested in the one pound notes range from the number of notes in circulation at specific times during the Mandate to the number of notes still outstanding and the value of such notes in various grades as collector items. The first question consists of the notes in circulation from the first year of issue (1927) to the termination of the board in 1952 plus official figures as to outstanding notes as of 1966.

Obverse and reverse of the 1 Pound Note of the Palestine Currency Board. The size is 166 x 89mm.



The amount of one pound notes in circulation for each year from 1927 through 1952 from official records is set forth as follows in Palestine pounds:

March 31, 1928	765,000	pounds
March 31, 1929	731,712	pounds
March 31, 1930	888,043	pounds
March 31, 1931	999,943	pounds
March 31, 1932	985,514	pounds
March 31, 1933	1,164,856	pounds
March 31, 1934	1,532,740	pounds
March 31, 1936	2,025,230	pounds
March 31, 1937	2,031,230	pounds
March 31, 1938	1,926,530	pounds
March 31, 1939	2,457,821	pounds
March 31, 1940	2,785,821	pounds
March 31, 1941	3,716,346	pounds
March 31, 1942	5,464,702	pounds
March 31, 1943	9,893,099	pounds
March 31, 1944	12,494,508	pounds
March 31, 1945	11,449,583	pounds
March 31, 1946	9,579,528	pounds
March 31, 1947	8,928,469	pounds
March 31, 1948	9,413,578	pounds
March 31, 1949	3,795,913	pounds
March 31, 1950	2,334,606	pounds
March 31, 1951	746,913	pounds
March 31, 1952	225,743	pounds

It is interesting to note the amount of one pound notes in circulation in 1952 was only 225,743 pounds as compared with the 765,000 pounds in circulation in the 1928 fiscal year of the Palestine Currency Board. Official government sources stated that the theoretical amount of one pound notes outstanding as of March 16, 1966 was 184,643 pounds or a theoretical 184,643 one pound notes.

This official source stated: "It must be emphasized that the figures can have little practical significance by now, as a great deal of the notes shown as theoretically outstanding must have been destroyed from one cause or another."

It is also to be noted that the Palestine Currency Board notes continued to be redeemed from 1966 up to and including 1973. The author redeemed a few ragged Palestine Currency Board notes to learn the redemption procedure during this period.

Cont. on page 18

TEL-AVIV: ANOTHER OF ISRAEL'S CITY MEDALS

by Shmuel Matalon, Tel-Aviv

A new and beautiful addition to the list of Israel's City Medals is the one recently issued by the Tel-Aviv Municipality. This latest medal is undated, and was struck for the purpose of presentation to important guests of the city.



The new medal is in two sizes, 45 mms. and 59 mms., in bronze as well as in silver. The silver medals are intended for highly distinguished guests of the city.

Panoramic View of City

The obverse depicts a panoramic view of Tel-Aviv, the Jaffa ancient port, the Tel-Aviv Municipality, the Heichal Hatarbut auditorium (home of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra), etc. On the reverse — *Tel-Aviv-Jaffa*, with a quotation from the Bible: "Again I shall build thee" (Jeremiah). This quotation has accompanied the city of Tel-Aviv from its very beginning.

Thanks to the courtesy of the Director of the Department of the Tel-Aviv Municipality, Mr. Nissan Shaltiel, we learn that the medal was designed (after winning the competition), by the Shamir brothers, who are very well known to Israeli numismatists. Among their many achievements are the medals of Z.O.A. 1967, Ashdod Port 1966, The Israel Philharmonic 1966, Histadrut 1964, Chess Olympics 1964, Masada (reverse), as well as numerous banknotes.

ISRAELI COLLECTOR PUBLISHES ANCIENT CITY COIN DATA

The extensive collection of M. Rosenberger of Jerusalem will be published in a series of two volumes, the first volume presenting Jerusalem (103 coins); Acre (Akko) (87 coins); Antipatris (4 coins); Askalon (230 coins) and Anthedon (9 coins).

Many of the coins are in print for the first time, according to the publisher, and the collection represents years of collecting and investing.

The second volume will include coins from Caesarea, Diospolis (*Lod*), Dora, Gaba, Gaza, Eleutheropolis (*Beth Gibrin*) and Jaffa.

Volume One is offered for IL 60 (about \$14.00 U.S.) which includes postage by M. Rosenberger, Jaffa Road 72, P.O.B. 520, Jerusalem, Israel

ISRAEL TROOPS USE VOUCHERS

Special one-lira vouchers (about U.S. 24 cents) were in use by Israeli military personnel on the Egyptian and Syrian fronts, according to numismatist Yosef Sa'ar, Tel Aviv. The Shekem (Israeli post exchange) vouchers are sent by families of servicemen. The deep blue, light blue and black with red control numbers voucher is the first reported numismatic item attributed to the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

RABBINATE PERMITS PURCHASES ON SABBATH WITH ARMY COUPONS

Sabbath purchases of soft drinks and sweets with Shekem army canteen coupons are now authorized by an arrangement approved by the chief army rabbinate of the Israel army, according to reports from Jerusalem.

The coupons for the Shekem notes may be purchased throughout the week.

Shekem is the post exchange-commissary counterpart of the Israel army, with facilities throughout Israel.

THE YOM KIPPUR WAR, TOURISM AND BEN-GURION

by Dov Genachowski

This is a medal prepared for an event which did not take place.

Its participants were busy elsewhere. The "Golani" division, one of the most famous in the Israel Defense Forces, marked its 25th Anniversary this year. The division formed during the battles of 1948, takes its name not from the location of some of its most famous battles, the Golan Heights, but rather from its first commander, Nahum Golan. How he got the name is a long story. Anyway, a festive reunion of the Division for all members, past and present, was set for Tuesday, October 9th.



For this reunion, a medal was created. The obverse shows the Division's emblem, the rooted tree, with the inscription "25 Years Golani Division, 5708-5733, 1948-1973". The reverse shows the 25th Anniversary of the State symbol with the appropriate inscription, in Hebrew and English. The medals were struck by *Shekel* of Tel Aviv, and numbered on the rim. The only trouble was that on October 9th the division was back in the Golan, fighting the Syrians, a fight which culminated in the occupation of the Hermon strongholds on the final day before the cease-fire of October 23rd.

Up to the war, by the way, several other units *did* celebrate similar anniversaries, some also with medals, among them the *Etzioni Division* and the *Haganah veterans*.

ANCIENT JEWISH COINS

MINTED IN JERUSALEM



SHIMEON
(BAR KOKHBA)
132-135 CE



SHEKEL
YEAR 3-68/9 CE

The *Yom Kippur War*, obviously, dealt rather harshly with Israel's booming tourist industry. Bleak projections were making headway. It seems that the picture is not that dark. Numismatists among the tourists and pilgrims making their visit to Israel this time of the year should not forget to "claim" at *Lod Airport* the special souvenir prepared for them (all tourists arriving during this season, whether for Christmas or for Hanukkah, receive it) by the *Ministry of Tourism*. Copies of two coins, a copper piece of *Shimeon Bar Kochba* (132-135 CE) and a *Shekel of Year 3* (68/9 CE) very neatly "packaged" with the text "*Shalom, Greetings from Jerusalem, Ministry of Tourism, Israel 1973-1974*" in English and French. The relics (so marked) were produced for the ministry in Jerusalem, by *Antiquities of the Holy Land, Ltd.*

* * *

Speaking of tourism, I am reminded of a series I started noting in these pages quite a while ago: coins and medals bearing, in some form or the other, the *Panorama of Jerusalem*. A short list includes the *Jerusalem coins*, the *Jordan Jerusalem coin*, the *Knesseth, Bank of Israel, Mayor of Jeru-*

salem and Shaare Zedek Hospital presentation medals. Here is another: Jerusalem, and Israel in general, often host congresses and conventions. In August 1973, the *Second International Congress of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists* met in Jerusalem. The obverse of the medal repeats the name of the Congress and the City in Hebrew and English, gives the dates, and shows the emblem of the *Israel Bar Association*.

The reverse—aha, you guessed it! Large figure "25", along the rim "25th Anniversary of the State of Israel", bilingually—and the Jerusalem panorama: the Wall, tombs of the Kings,



Absalom's monument, the Knesseth, Kennedy's memorial, the Israel Museum, Yad-Vachem, the Hebrew University—the works. Seems to be a product of the IGCAM but I did not verify this.

David Ben Gurion, first Prime Minister and Minister of Defense of Israel, founder of the State, who died recently, was commemorated on several medals, in Israel and abroad. His signature, by the way, appears on several State Medals (check *Haffner*) as well as on the most recent of *Independence Day* coins, the first signature on Israel's Declaration of Independence. Some of these medals are very good, some so-so. I like Vincze's portrait, commemorating "B.G." 's 80th birthday, best. But a prize for speed is due the *Bavarian State Mint* in West Germany. Barely a week after Ben Gurion's death it issued an "in memoriam" medal, for "The Great Leader of Israel" with the dates, 1886-1973. The reverse bears a so-so portrait. Issued in silver and gold and on sale in most German banks.

This is at least the *second* Ben Gurion medal minted in Germany. A Gold medal bearing his portrait was issued, commercially, back in the early fifties.

* * *

"Tarbiz" is the Hebrew University's *Quarterly for Jewish Studies*, now in its 42nd year, and as unnumismatic as

See story on top of page



מדינית זכרון ובה חקוקה מצד אחד דמותו של דוד בן-גוריון ז"ל ומצדה השני הכתובת, "לזכר המנהיג הדגול של ישראל" — הונפקה עליידי המשרד הבווארי למטבעות. המדליה שנטבעה הן בזהב והן בכסף נמצאת למכירה בכל הבנקים של גרמניה המערבית.

(צילום אי.פי. רדירטלגראפי)

such a journal can be. *Well, not exactly.* In the last issue, No. 1-2 of Vol. XLII, there appears a note by Dr. D. Sperber "*On the Price of the Cave of Machpela*", the plot in Hebron Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and their wives are buried.

There is a passage in *Talmud Yerushalmi* in which Rabbi Judah ben Pazi says that the shekels with which Abraham bought the cave of Machpela (Gen. xxiii 9) were "*kintrin*". *Kintrin* are defined by the author as "cent-enarii", which in Roman times meant 100 librae (*argensis*), each of which was equal to 10,000 denarii. Hence the cave cost Abraham 4,000,000 denarii.

Rabbi Judah ben Pazi lived in the first half of the fourth century in Palestine. His interpretation of the Biblical text, which led him to the apparent enormous price of 4,000,000 denarii for the cave, in actual fact reflects the *current* Palestinian prices of real-estate, and contemporary usage of monetary terminology in several parts of the eastern Roman Empire.

So says Dr. Sperber. But one still wonders. *4,000,000 denarii is really an awful lot of money.*

* * *

This instalment of the "diary" was written, as readers will appreciate under strain. The war took its awful toll, which we did not escape; and the political situation of these days, on the eve of the Geneva Conference, exacts its own in terms of pressures and nerves. So there is missing here, to my regret, the usual "department" on books and publications. There is quite a lot to tell in this area—and I hope to provide this again in the next issue of *The Shekel*.

Jerusalem, December 1973

Bound Volume of Shekel (Vol. V-VI) Ready

Are you among those who have bound volumes *The Shekel*? The third book — Volumes V and VI for 1972 and 1973—is now ready. In blue — \$10.00. Write AINA.

Palestine 1-Pound Notes (Cont.)

No records were kept as to notes redeemed, cancelled and destroyed by denomination so that such information is not available.

The author's personal collection contains one pound notes of all four verified dates: 1927, 1929, 1939 and 1944. There are various other collectors known to also have all four issue dates of the one pound Palestine Currency Board notes.

There appears to be some one pound notes in uncirculated condition bearing the 1929, 1939 and 1944 dates. Interested collectors are able to obtain such notes in condition from *uncirculated to ordinary circulated* condition. The 1927 one pound note is, in my opinion, more difficult to obtain in top conditions, but I am aware of collectors who have been able to obtain them.

The author and many others are interested in verifying all known 1927 one pound notes in the possession of collectors or dealers. Information concerning the above plus information as to known redemptions, destruction by fire or other casualty of any one pound notes is also of great interest. It is requested that such information be transmitted to Jack H. Fisher, Attorney at Law, 912 American National Bank Building, Kalamazoo, Michigan, 49006, U.S.A.



RECEPTION HONORS AVNI DURING FEBRUARY VISIT

Y. Avni made his first trip to the U.S. since the Yom Kippur War and was honored at a reception in New York in the home of Albert J. Schmeidler.

From l. to r.: Ed Janis, Board member, AINA; Y. Avni, Jerusalem; A. Grossman, Morris Bram, President of AINA; and Ed Weiss.

The ALEPH BETH Page

...Dedicated to the Beginner

by Edward Janis



Q. How does the new regulations of December, 1973 pertaining to the importing of gold coins as issued by the Office of Domestic Gold and Silver Operations, Washington, D.C. now affect the gold coin issues of the Government of Israel? T. K., Philadelphia, Pa.

A. Prior to the ruling, the only gold coin of Israel that was eligible for importation was the *Herzl twenty Israel Pound* gold piece, dated 1960. This was one of the few coins struck after 1934 that was recognized by ODGSO to be a gold coin of "recognized special value to collectors" and as such, the *Herzl* gold was licensed for importation. Under the new ruling, all gold coins legally struck, and dated 1959 or earlier are eligible for importation under a general license granted by ODSCO. No gold coins dated 1960 and later may be imported. A *Herzl* gold piece that was previously imported and legally held by a collector may still be held a collector without fear of confiscation.

Q. I received AINA's announcement of the Silver Medal of Liberation. It is described as an Israeli farmer and an Israeli woman with a sheaf of corn. In Bertram's book it is described as "a kneeling settler Planting a sapling and a woman joyously lifting a woman in her arms". Are these two different medals? Can you clarify the difference? Thank you. M. D., Flushing, N. Y.

A. They are two different medals. The medal in AINA's flyer is the 1958 *Medal of Liberation 1st Issue* (Haffner M-A2) which is pictured and described on Page 224 of her book. You described *Medal of Liberation 2nd Issue* which was issued in 1961 and is shown in Haffner on Page 225 and described and listed as M-1a on Page 226.

Q. I saw a listing of a 1962 Purim coin. Is this a regular issue by the Israel Government or a private issue? R. T., Newark, N. J.

A. Definitely a Government issue. The Purim issues were short-lived, only issued in 1961 and 1962 in regular and proof. Most collectors refer to these coins as the *Commemorative Half-Shekel pieces*. The issues of 1961 having a mintage of 20,004 regular and 5,000 proof are scarcer than the 1962 (which were struck in amounts of 20,000 regular and 10,000 proof). The scarcity of the 1961 pieces do not reflect the actual proportion of the relationship of the two years production as shown in the mint figures. The 1961 coins had wide distribution and were given as gifts as a reminder of the ancient rite of the custom of each Jewish male over twenty contributing Temple dues of one-half a shekel. The majority of these pieces were acquired and put away, not by numismatists, but by religiously-inclined Jews who now had a relic-like coin to tie into the age-old custom which was severed by the destruction of the Temple in 70 C.E. The custom has been modified by the pious making the required payment during the Purim season to an institution of Jewish learning.

This issue, unlike the other Israel commemoratives, does not have an English date upon it. For those that do not read the Hebrew dates, the simple way to tell the difference between the 1961 and the 1962 is to look at the obverse (the side with the legends and not the side with the replica of the ancient half shekel). The letter below the apostrophe on your left at 9 o'clock is either an *aleph* or a *beth*. In this position, the *aleph* looks like a z. This is 1961.

Cont. on page 31

DETERMINING THE NUMISMATIC

by Roni Grad, Age 15
Newton Center, Mass.

A letter to the editor published in the November 1973 issue of *World Coins* (page 1752) prompted me to a lot of research, and even more thinking and talking to experts.

In his letter, Mr. Fredric R. Wachter of Glendale, N. Y. accuses Israel of "*foisting superfluous coins on us*", and "*issuing fantasies*". He then blamed the numismatic press in general, and *World Coins* in particular, for giving the field of Israeli Numismatics much more coverage than in his opinion, it deserves. For purposes of comparison, Mr. Wachter indicates that South Africa, whose coins he collects, enjoys very inadequate coverage in the numismatic press.

I want to share with you my reactions to Mr. Wachter's letter as they developed when I read and re-read his complaint.

A Numismatic Reaction

My very first reaction was: *a Numismatist doesn't act that way!* Numismatists appreciate each other's collection; they don't knock someone else's specialty in order to prove how great their own is.

My second reaction was to research the facts. How *does* one determine when the issue of any country become "*superfluous coins . . . fantasies*"? The answers to this question are quite complicated. While proving how wrong Mr. Wachter actually is, I want to also offer a suggestion for a way in which *World Coins* may try to evaluate the numismatic integrity of the coin issues of any country. The mintage figures which follow are taken from tables which appeared in the November 21st issue of *Coin World* and from the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*.

With a population of about 204,000, tiny Iceland minted in 1970 sixty-two coins for every person in Iceland; in the 10 years between 1960 and 1970, Iceland minted 365 coins for every person in Iceland. One may conclude that the coinage of Iceland is "*superfluous*" because they minted more coins for every man, woman and child in their country than any other country in the world. On the other hand, in 1970, tiny Iceland had a money supply of 4 billion 756 million *kronur*. In that year, Iceland minted one new coin for every 377 *kronur* in its money supply (*one of the lowest mintage figures in relation to money supply in the world*).

At the other end of the range is Mr. Wachter's specialty, South Africa, which minted only 5 coins for every person in 1970; only 45 in a 10 year period. Based on the size of its population, South Africa had very low mintage figures. On the other hand, South Africa had, in 1970, a money supply of 2 billion 176 million *Rand*. They produced in 1970 a new coin for every 21 *Rand* in the money supply—*one of the highest mintage figures in the world!*

A U. S. Example

One more example: our own United States produced in 1970 thirty-eight coins for every person in the country; 305 coins in the 10 year period. These are the *second highest* mintage figures in the world (after Iceland) in relation to population. In 1970, the United States had a money supply of 198 billion *dollars*. The U. S. produced a new coin for every 25 *dollars* in our

VALUE QUOTIENT OF COINS

money supply—the *second highest mintage figure after South Africa.*

Now—Israel: in 1970 Israel produced 12 coins for every person in its country, and the figure was 114 coins over a 10 year period. (*These are very very conservative figures as compared to the 365 coins per person Iceland produced; the 305 coins of the U. S.; and the 221 coins per person Canada produced during the same period.*)

1970: Israel

In 1970, Israel had a money supply of 3 billion 101 million *pounds*. It produced one new coin for every 86 *pounds* in its money supply. While it trails the 1 in 377 ratio of Iceland mintage, and the 1 in 152 ratio of Mexican mintage, it is certainly a much more conservative mintage policy than is reflected in the 1 in 21 ratio of South Africa; the 1 in 25 ratio of the United States; or the 1 in 33 ratio of Canada.

On the basis of the size of its population and of its money supply, Israel's coin minting policies have been very conservative and responsible: 3 times more conservative than the policy of the United States if measured by the same yardstick.

By checking the mintage figures of the cited countries in relation to their *Gross National Products*, it established that Israel's policy is a very conservative one.

Statistics tell only part of the story of the numismatic interest in Israel. Israel is the Holy Land for Jews and Christians. Israel is the birth-place of Western Civilization; it is reasonable to assume that its coins would have

very special meaning to Jews and Christians alike. Does Mr. Wachter know many Americans whose heritage saw its birth in South Africa?

As a numismatist I must remind Mr. Wachter that, as Israel plays a very special role to Jews and Christians, so it can be assumed that Israel Numismatics must be viewed somewhat differently than other collecting specialties.

With all these considerations taken into account, Israel should be applauded as being among the most responsible countries on earth, numismatically. There is a more meaningful way to report mintage figures which will help numismatists determine the "*Numismatic Value Quotient*" (N.V.Q.) of the coins of any country.

"Numismatic Value Quotient"

At the present time, the numismatic press simply reports mintage figures and ranks countries in order of the *total number* of coins minted. This doesn't mean much because it does not reveal anything about the numismatic integrity of the issuing country. Consider the advantage if in addition to reporting mintage figures, the numismatic press should also relate these figures to the total population of each country, its Gross National Product, and its money supply. In addition to three separate indices, a composite index including all of these factors would, in fact, become a "*Numismatic Value Quotient*". This method of reporting would be much more meaningful. Each numismatist would have a practical yardstick for evaluating the desirability of the coins of every country.

ISRAEL NEW YEAR TOKENS OF THE IGCAM

by Martin Morgenstern

Each *Yom Kippur* (the Jewish New Year celebrated on October 6th in 1973) since 1964 the Israel government has issued a commemorative token. These tokens should be made an important part of collecting Israel coins and medals. These tokens are distributed by the Israel government Coins and Medals Corporation of Jerusalem to subscribers and friends as part of their "seasons greetings".

The first year of issue was 1964 (*Jewish year 5724*). The currency of one *agora* was encased in brass with "*Shana Tora*" greetings ("*Good Year*"). The obverse has the name of the corporation. The diameter was 33mm. There are two major types. Type one: the 1 agora coin encased in brass. Type two: the 1 agora encased in the brass with the agora *inverted*.

For the second year, 1965 (*5724*) the token is a miniature copy of the Medal of Liberation struck in brass. It is 22mm in diameter. The token was then placed in a bookmark. The bookmark's message: "*With the Seasons Greetings*". The bookmark was produced in both red and blue pastic with the blue bookmark believed to be the scarcer of the two.

In 1966 (*5725*) the cornucopia token was issued. This token shows a double cornucopia surrounded by the words "*Peace and prosperity for 1966*" in English and in Hebrew. The coins are of cupro-riched, 33mm in diameter. The edges are milled from 1966 on with the exception of 1968 and through 1972.

The 1967 (*5726*) token, the *Fruits of Israel* token, inscribed "*Season's Greetings*" in English and in Hebrew. This same inscription appeared on tokens of the following three years.

The token depicted two hands holding a wine glass and fruit. The reverse is the corporation name and the year 1967 in English and Hebrew. The following years offer the same reverse except with the current date. The tokens are cupro-nickel and are 30mm in diameter from 1967 to 1974.

In 1968 (*5728*) the token was the emblem of the *Israel Defense Force*. The sword is lightly embossed.

In 1969 (*5729*) the face of the coin is embossed with the corporation seal with the number "20" above the seal surrounded by the words "*Season's Greetings*" in English and Hebrew.

In 1970 (*5730*) the peace token (on the obverse) featured the motif taken from a bronze coin of "*Year Four*" of the War of the Jews against Rome. It depicts the palm branch, the turtle, the willow and the citron.

In 1971 (*5731*) the token honors the Israel Air Force (IAF). The obverse portrays the outline of the Phantom fighter plane. The obverse inscription was changed from prior years to "*Homage to the IAF*" in English and Hebrew.

The 1972 (*5732*) token had the theme: "*Let my People Go*", dedicated to the Russian Jewish people. It is the same face as the "*Let My People Go*" 10 pound commemorative coins. The words are debossed rather than raised as in prior coins.

For description,
see page 24



No. 1

No. 2



No. 3



No. 7



No. 4



No. 8



No. 5



No. 9



No. 6



No. 10



No. 11



AINA token: 1973

1973 (5733) is dedicated to the Israel Navy. The obverse inscription "Homage to Israel's Navy" in English and Hebrew. The profile is of a Navy gunboat launching a rocket.

Those who were members of AINA in 1973 received an AINA variant token: the same obverse as the 1973 New Years Day token but with the reverse bearing the club emblem and

the name "American Israel Numismatic Association". The token should be considered part of the collection because it was created from the same die.

The most recent issue, 1974 (5734) is dedicated to "Israel's 25th Anniversary", appearing on the obverse of the coin at bottom. The center has the symbol of the Israel government.

FIGURE NUMBER	ENGLISH YEAR	HEBREW YEAR	DIAMETER	MILLED EDGE	METAL	THEME	DESCRIPTION OBSERVE	REVERSE
1	1964	5724	33mm			one Agora	obverse of one Agora "Shora Tora"	reverse of one Agora
2 Bookmark Type I Blue Type II Red	1965	5725	22mm		Brass	Liberation		
3	1966	5726	33mm	yes	Cupro- Nickel	Cornucopia	Peace and Prosperity for 1966	Israel* Government Coins and Medal Corp. 1966
4	1967	5727	30mm	yes	Cupro- Nickel	Fruits of Israel	Seasons Greetings*	Same as 1967*
5	1968	5728	30mm	no	Cupro- Nickel	Israel Defense Force	Seasons Greetings*	Same as above 1968*
6	1969	5729	30mm	yes	Cupro- Nickel	20 Years	Seasons Greetings*	Same as above 1969*
7	1970	5730	30mm	yes	Cupro- Nickel	Peace Token	Seasons Greetings*	Same as above 1970*
8	1971	5731	30mm	yes	Cupro- Nickel	Phantom Fighter	Homage to the IAF*	Same as above 1971
9	1972	5732	30mm	yes	Cupro- Nickel	Let My People Go	Let My People Go	Same as above 1972*
10	1973	5733	30mm	no	Cupro- Nickel	Israel Navy	Homage to the Navy	Same as above 1973*
11	1974	5734	30mm	no	Cupro- Nickel	Israel 25th Anniversary	Israel 25th Anniversary	Same as above 1974*

*Written in Hebrew and English

AVNI VISITS U.S. IN FIRST POST-WAR TOUR; WESTCHESTER INS FORMED; SHEKEL BOARD PLANS 1974



AVNI MEETS MAYOR OF BALTIMORE

In a special program arranged by Don Sussman, president of the INS of Baltimore, Md., Yitzhak Avni, Director-General of the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation made a special visit to the office of His Honor The Mayor, William Schafer, Baltimore. Mr. Avni presented the mayor with a Jerusalem medal in honor of numerous expressions of interest and support for activities within the Jewish community here and abroad. Mr. Schafer made Mr. Avni an Honorary Citizen of the City of Baltimore in the brief meeting.



SHEKEL EDITORIAL CONFERENCE

A special Planning Meeting of the editorial board of *The Shekel* to plan issues for Volume VII (1974) was held recently. From l. to r.: N. H. Hacohen, representing the ICGAM; George Gilbert, Editor; Morris Bram, president, AINA; and Ed Janis, Associate Editor.



WESTCHESTER GROUP FORMED

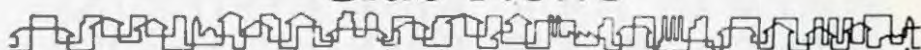
One of the newest INS groups in the U. S. has held its formative meeting in Westchester, a suburb north of New York City. A large public meeting heard plans for the new INS and met president *Pro-Tem* Ed Weiss and other AINA leaders and representatives of the Israel Government. From l. to r.: Morris Bram, president, AINA; N. H. Hacohen, representing the ICGAM; and Ed Weiss, president *pro-tem*.



GOVERNMENT COIN DISPLAY SEEN BY HUNDREDS BEFORE INS MEETING

A traveling display of the Government of Israel featuring an unusual mix of coins and medals interlaced with the history and traditions of the State of Israel and the Jewish people were on display for the audience of over 200 who attended the formative meeting of the INS of Westchester.

Club News



BROOKLYN INS HOLDS SECOND INSTALLATION

The Israel Numismatic Society of Brooklyn, N. Y., observed its second birthday at the office installation session. To celebrate his father's 100th birthday, Leonard Paizer served the collation.

Fred E. Roganson showed his slides of Israel, coming down from Connecticut for the program.

Nathan Sobel is the new president; Al Yatkowitz; first vice president and treasurer; David Greenberg, second vice president and corresponding secretary; Norma Tasman, recording secretary, and Steve Weiner, membership chairman.

Members of the board are Morris Bram, Ray Ellenbogen, Mike Granis, Rose Kantor, Harold Leichtling, Alice Reid, Ben Spencer, Moe Weinschel and Mel Wacks.

The group planned a trip to Philadelphia.

The active group has shared the various planned activities and club efforts with a number of committees. The following club committees are involved:

Coins — Al Yatkowitz, *chairman*; Harold Leichtling, *co-chairman*

Bus Trip — Frank Delatorre

Membership — Steve Weiner

Classified — Leon and Mitzi Shands

Collations — Harold Rogg

Education — Moe Weinschel and Richard Borek, *chairmen*

LONG ISLANDERS ISSUE PNC

The INS of Long Island (N. Y.) has announced its Philatelic-Numismatic 25th Anniversary Cover.

This cover honors the 25th Anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel, and the fifth anniversary of the formation of the INS of Long Island.

It consists of the official 25th Anniversary First Day cover encasing a

5 *agorot* brilliant uncirculated coin (1973).

The cover contains the *Declaration of Independence* stamp with tab; the emblem of the *State of Israel*, the stag of Israel's postal service, and the anniversary emblem. It was cancelled in Tel Aviv on May 3, 1973. A total of only two hundred and fifty (250) pieces was produced. These are numbered, and protected by a clear plastic sleeve.

These are priced at \$5.00. Interested parties may send a check for \$5.00 payable to INSLI to P.O. Box 145, Plainview, Long Island, New York 11803.

PITTSBURGH INS ELECTS

The active *INS of Pittsburgh* reports that the following officers have been elected for the 1973-74 year:

President — Morris Freezman

1st Vice Pres. — F. Jeremiah Farley

2nd Vice Pres. — Prosper DeVos

Recording Sec'y. — Morris Epstein

Corres. Sec'y. — Jennie Lando

Treasurer — Robert Lesser

Directors are: Rabbi Aaron B. Ilson;

Aldona Davis; Dr. Milton E. Klein;

Ithamar Lando; Dr. Leslie Reggel; Dr.

Alan Reznick; and Edmund J. Schenk, Jr.

TEXANS LAUNCH SERIES OF PNC COVERS TO RAISE FUNDS

The INS of Texas has launched an annual program for fund-raising by issuance of its first PNC effort, with the Houston based group responsible for a philatelic-numismatic combination which spans the oceans.

The PNC honors Israel's 25th Anniversary and contains a 25-*agorot* coin which a die-cut outline of the state of Texas. A one-pound stamp with tab was used with Sylvia Haffner in Jerusalem assisting with details for cancellations. Only 500 were issued, advises Chris Jasso, 1973 secretary of the INS group. The cancellation was May 14, 1973, official Israel 25th Anniversary date.

PNC's may be ordered from *INS of Texas, P.O. Box 35673, Houston, Texas 77035* for \$3.95 each plus 25c for handling.

The elections for 1974 resulted in:

President — Herb Oberman

Vice-Pres. — Irving Passman

Sec'y. — Jacob Rothkop

Treasurer — Dorothy Rantz

Sgt. at Arms — Dr. Sam Gold

The Board of Directors: Harold Z. Nelson, Dr. R. P. Nielsen, Al Selsky and & Stuart Bamberger (Jr. Board Member).

An auction held by the members raised funds recently for the hospital at Safed near the Golan Heights which was treating wounded Israeli soldiers.

TIDEWATER, VA.

GROWS FROM 7 TO 75

One of the fastest growing INS groups in the U. S., the INS of Tidewater, Va. had grown from seven to seventy-five in its first year, reports president Milton Ronick. Elections for the 1974 year were:

President — Morton Ronick

Vice-Pres. — Milton Becker

Sec'y. — Henry Ullman

Treasurer — A. I. Axelrod

The Board of Directors: Dr. Howard Kahn, Ted Margoulis, Larry Miller, Dr. Eugene Poutasse and Phil Weiner.

The group meets monthly at the Jewish Community Center in Norfolk. One of the final meetings of 1973 heard Dr. E. Poutasse make a presentation on "Cleaning and Care of Coins".

ILLINOIS GROUP

HOLDS CHANUKAH PARTY

Among the activities of the INS of Illinois was a combination Chanukah Party and elections. The election resulted in the following:

President — Dr. Saul Needleman

1st Vice Pres. — Stewart Koppel

2nd Vice Pres. — Louis Nagy

Sec'y. — Mrs. Sandra Needleman

Treasurer — Mrs. Peggy Goldsmith

Members of the Board of Directors include: Ben Odesser, Joseph Sporn and Harry Flower.

Recent issues of the INSI Newsletter have featured a serialized monograph: *Currency in Palestine 1912: An Eyewitness Account* by Robert Leonard.

An installation and awards dinner was held in late January at the Hyatt House Hotel, billed as "the second annual INSI dinner" as Illinois joins the trend for mixed social and business dinner meetings on an annual basis.

HANNUKA CLAUS

VISITS SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

Loaded with a bag of \$2.00 gifts, every man, woman and child attending the INS of San Gabriel Valley (Calif.) December meeting got his Hannukah surprise gift. The meeting heard Bill Robertson of Santa Monica speak on "Ottoman Empire Coins Used in Israel 1517-1922AD".

The Olive Branch newsletter offers numerous numismatic and related items for club members to read, study or enjoy. The story of the *Shekem*, the special vouchers which may be used at Army Post Exchanges was described and explained. *Shekem* is an acronym: "sherutei canteena ume-



AT THE NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL NUMISMATIC CONVENTION

Leaders of the American Israel Numismatic Assn. and numerous friends convened for activities at the N. Y. International Numismatic Convention at the Americana Hotel.

Top, left: Irving Rudin of the AINA Board of Directors; Vincent W. Alones, a key executive for the AINA Convention and others in the metropolitan area; seated, r. to l.: John J. Pittman, president of O.I.M. nd Immediate Past President of ANA; and Morris Bram, President of AINA.

sador" or Canteen and Restaurant Service.

Abe Kosoff presided over installation ceremonies at the second annual banquet of the group.

Peggy E. Borgolte is president; Max Bunshaft, vice president; Anita Drapkin, secretary, and Celia Bunshaft, treasurer. Members of the board are Murray Singer, Herbert Drapkin, "Babe" Baker, Cliff Roth, Sally Marx and past president, Jerry Yahalom.

All present at the event received a 1974 calendar with a place to make notes every day of the year. All were given candy from Israel.

MARYLANDERS LEARN OF ISRAEL THRU COIN PORTRAITS

Portraits of Israel through her 5 pound and 10 pound coins, along with personal accounts from recent visitor to Israel Len Atran were among key meetings that ended the 1973 year of meetings of the *INS of Maryland*.

Meeting in Baltimore, in the Jewish Community Center on a monthly basis, the INS has involved itself with a variety of educational activities in support of Israel numismatics and Israel herself.

The Baltimore group noted that starting with the Fall it had the largest membership in its history. Its January meeting included an auction of donated materials to raise funds for emergency aid to Israel. A presentation by Arnold Rosenbaum on PNC combinations and a talk on trade coins by Jeff Brenner were also scheduled.

Officers for the year include:

President — Don Sussman
Vice Pres. — Ann Kuff
Sec'y. — Kenny Baum
Treasurer — Shep Silverman

INS OF WASHINGTON, D. C. ELECTS OFFICERS

A fall meeting of the INS of Washington, D.C. elected officers:

President — Nelson Whitman
Vice-Pres. — Joseph Bles
Treasurer — Helen Bondy
Recording Sec'y. — Louise Cohen
Corres. Sec'y. — Julius Cohn

Board of Directors: Adolf Bondy (Past Pres.); Harold Nussbaum; Harry Warshaw; Lou Goldberg and Linus Goyette.

Those present voted \$100 from the Club Treasury to aid in meeting the needs of Israeli citizens during the current war emergency.

JERSEYITES ELECT OFFICERS

Officers for the 1973-74 year of the INS of N.J. are:

President — Howard Finke
1st Vice-Pres. — Sid Moscovitz
2nd Vice-Pres. — Max Becker
Treasurer — Walter D. Moore Jr.
Recording Sec'y. — Margaret E. Moore
Corres. Sec'y. — Laura Rosenblum
Sgt. at Arms — Zoltan Hush
Trustees include: Milton Gottlieb, Dr. Harold Grubin, Murray Mackler, Carl Rosenblum, Martin Rubin, Robert Schoenwalder and Lou Susskind.

According to *Nova Caesarea*, monthly bulletin of the group, a variety of club activities include extreme urgency to fund-raising through auction and private donation for the Israel war emergency; special Youth Committee activities including a numismatic presentation by club officers to the Junior Youth Group of the *Temple B'nai Jeshurun* where the Society meets; and the establishment of a numismatic library area within the Temple's Library.

CLEVELAND INS SPONSOR FIRST ISRAEL GREAT LAKES SEMINAR

An unusual all-Israel event sponsored by the INS of Cleveland was the *First Israel Great Lakes Seminar* which brought together a variety of collectors and specialists from a four-state area this Fall, announced Sanford Brown, president of the INS there.

With such events as presentations by Jacob Henneberg, Sanford Brown and Stanley Yulish; a pre-event cocktail party hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Yulish; and an auction of 100 lots which included an item four-feet by six-feet (a framed chart of Israeli coinage) and such one of a kind items



AT THE GREAT LAKES ISRAEL SEMINAR

From l. to r.: Jake Henenberg, Cleveland INS club artist; Roy Nolan, sec'y; Sanford Brown, President; Ed Murphy, Treasurer; Stanley Yulish, Seminar Chairman; Morris Bram, President of AINA; and N. H. Hacohen, IGCAM.

as a share warrant of the *Workers Bank of Eretz Israel*; and a president's dinner for forty, the Seminar was an unusual event in the history of INS-led activities around the U.S. during 1973.

Morris Bram, president of AINA and Nahum H. Hacohen of the IGCAM attended from New York and both spoke on the growth of AINA and the events in Israel of both political and numismatic significance.

The INS of Cleveland honored its outgoing officers and Dick Wengel received a watch with Hebrew Numerals on its face. The Seminar closed its weekend-long activities with a presentation of Israeli songs by Miss Harriet Lowe.

INS OF GEORGIA ELECTS OFFICERS

The INS of Georgia at its December meeting completed its slate of officers for the fiscal year 1973-1974.



AWARDS AT GREAT LAKES ISRAEL SEMINAR

From l. to r.: Stanley Yulish, Seminar Chairman; Morris Bram, President of AINA; N. H. Hacohen, IGCAM; and Leon Lindheim, syndicated coin columnist.

President — Bennett Herzfeld
Vice Pres. — Chuck Berger
Sec'y. — Harold Krauss
Treasurer — Joe I. Zimmerman
Program Chairman — Frank Golder
Purchasing — Graham Moses

The group meets in Atlanta and welcomes applications to P.O. Box 18862, Atlanta, Ga. 30326.

CALIFORNIANS ENJOY BANQUET AND INSTALLATION

A Sunday evening banquet at the Raffles Restaurant in Downey was the scene of the Installation of Officers of the *Israel Coin Club of Los Angeles* with outgoing president Maurice M. Gould honoring incoming president Dr. Sol Taylor. The new officers of the group include:

President — Dr. Sol Taylor
1st Vice-Pres. — Val Mogensen
2nd Vice-Pres. — Lester Dubin
Recording Sec'y. — Evelyn Sadler
Corres. Sec'y. — Sarah Breslow
Treasurer — Nate Bromberg
Board of Governors: Dr. Nathan B. Gitlin, Cliff Roth, William Sadler, Ben Abelson, Claire Abelson, Milt Fishgold, Carl Lerner, Phil Max and Maurice M. Gould (Past President).

The heartbreaking news that one of the Club's most distant members, Max Manning of Beersheba, had been killed during the Yom Kippur War on the Egyptian front arrived just about the time that the Club's members were reading in *The Scroll*, the group's monthly newsletter that Max Manning was offering to trade Turkish banknotes for coins of Israel and Palestine.

An auction was among events planned for the group to raise funds for the Israel war emergency.

The new editor of *The Scroll*, Claire Abelson, noted in a recent issue that as president, she had the assistance of *Scroll* editor, Dr. Sol Taylor. Now Dr. Taylor is president and ex-president Abelson is *Scroll* editor.

FAMILY JOINS LONG ISLAND ISRAEL CLUB

George Messer and his family became members at a recent meeting of the INS of Long Island, N.Y. Along with Messer as new members were Pat, Samuel, Aaron, Phyllis and Dave, all members of his family.

A club spokesman said this was an unusual situation and that it would probably bring out more family memberships. Other new members were Jack Taub, Seymour Krasner and Harvey Hindin.

New officers were officially installed during the February meeting:

President — David Gotlieb

Vice Pres. — Morty Zerder

2nd Vice Pres. — Irving Janowitz

Sec'y. — Max Vlotkofsky

Recording Sec'y. — Dr. Manny Rubin

Treasurer — Perry Rosenfeld

Sgt. at Arms — Roy Miller

Rubin and Zerder were responsible for interesting programs for meetings recently.

ISRAEL'S NEED HIGH ON INS OF CENTRAL N. J. PRIORITIES LIST

Barely one year old and already a group of over 100 members, the INS of Central New Jersey has made major contributions to Israel through aggressive fund-raising among members and in concert with other nearby INS and philatelic groups. An October auction raised over \$5000 and a major event in January conducted with the Society of Israel Philatelists raised a further major contribution. The auction was based on donated numismatic and philatelic items and the Sunday event replaced the regular January meeting.

Under a plan suggested by one of its members, the INS group has set aside three Sunday afternoons during the year for meetings to permit activities beyond the scope of the regular evening business-educational meetings.

The first honorary membership in the recently formed group was awarded to Mr. Barnett E. Hoffman for time and effort in assisting the group to incorporate as a non-profit corporation.

The December *Newsletter* featured the visit to the group of its most distant member, Frank J. Pivarnick who came from Phoenix, Arizona for a Fall meeting. His long-distance visit will inspire members who make the 15-20 mile drive once a month. He returned with a pleasant memento of his visit: he won a silver medal in a raffle held during the evening of his visit.

INS OF MASS. NOW CLAIMS TITLE: "LARGEST AINA SOCIETY"

The largest INS group now in the Association is the *INS of Massachusetts* which started 1974 with a registration of 180 members and a goal of 200 members early this Spring. As of September, the group had only 150 members.

By a special vote of the *Board of Directors* of the group, Morris Bram, president of AINA, has been made an *Honorary Member*, advises 1973 President Ed Shade of the Massachusetts group.

In time for a special dinner-dance attended by 124 held last Fall, the Massachusetts group distributed a special medal struck by the *Franklin Mint* to all members.

The membership growth was stimulated by a special membership contest with Bunny Shapero, Irving Rudin, Ed Shade, Charles Coleman, Dick Stone, Murray Krotman, Dave Wernick and Phyllis Frank being among early winners of Israeli coins and the *Mitzva 200 Club* membership for special effort in recruiting.

Elections for the new year:

President — Roslyn E. Kramer
1st Vice Pres. — Charles A. de Lano
2nd Vice Pres. — Bertrand Lipman
Corres. Sec'y. — Shirley Izen
Recording Sec'y. — Lee Wernick

INS OF MONTREAL SETS OFFICERS, DONATES \$500 ISRAEL BOND

The *INS of Montreal* has elected the following for the 1973/74 business year:

President — Isadore Baum
1st Vice Pres. — A. Gerschonowicz
2nd Vice Pres. — Bernard Richler
Treasurer — Lou Lazanik
Secretary — Mrs. Catherine Shiff

During the crisis of the *Yom Kippur War*, a donation from the club was augmented by members to make possible the purchase of an Israel Bond for \$525 which was made out in the name of the *State of Israel*, an outright gift of cash as a gesture of support.

The creation of an *INS of Montreal Educational Fund* was spurred by a talk by Isadore Baum. This fund will be used to: finance the purchase of a numismatic library for the club; for the purchase of numismatic literature for synagogue and other libraries throughout the city; for the distribution of numismatic literature to such centers as orphanages, hospitals, etc. The actual motion to pass the proposal was made by Lou Lazanik, seconded by Samuel Krum.

This special Fund is believed to be the first of its type for any INS group to establish the basis for education of the public. The plan is to have a 5% surcharge on all purchases made from the club; from sales of new issues; auction purchases with probable raffles, outright donations and other fund-raising activities to be reviewed as possible activities at a future date.

Reports from wartime Israel; and slide shows of "*Coins of Bible Days*" were among winter meeting themes.



NEW PRESIDENT IN TORONTO

From l. to r.: N. H. Hacohen of the IGCAM meets with Peter Brill, president of the Israel Numismatic Society of Toronto in January.

YATKOWITZ BECOMES PRESIDENT OF NEW YORK SOCIETY

Prior to election of officers of the Israel Numismatic Society of New York in the Americana hotel, it was decided to have 10 directors on the board. Nominations were made from the floor before a vote was taken.

Al Yatkowitz is president; Ben Spencer, vice president; Irving Golub, treasurer; Frank Porcaro, secretary; Dave Greenberg, corresponding secretary, and Allan Weinberger, sergeant at arms.

Directors are Ed Janis, Harry Schacher, Morris Bram, Mike Granis, Morty Zerder, Dr. J. Leichtling, Bernie Morganstern, Nat Sobel, Carl Rosenblum and Mel Wachs.

ALEPH BETH (Cont.)

The other letter looks like a chair facing left, having most of its back cut off. This is 1962. If it has a small letter at the very bottom at 6 o'clock, this signifies that it is a proof; the letter is a small *mem*.

As a series in the commemoratives, these coins are sleepers.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Continued)

THREE times—within six years. On our return, we (all of us on this most exciting visit with Israeli numismatists) will be glad to share our adventure through slides, tape recordings and reminiscences at meetings. If you read *The Shekel* stories on club activities, you will note how often a meeting of an INS club devotes itself to a detailed report of a member's visit on the AINA Study Tour, or one of his own.

We are especially anxious to return to the U. S. from Israel this year. We are already deep into the planning stages of the *Second Annual Greater New York Coin Convention*, sponsored by your AINA, and to held early in May at the New York Sheraton. The full story of what we are planning is the first story of this issue so you will see how diverse and varied we have made the program to appeal to all levels of numismatic interest and to all age groups.

In 1973 we had the amazing first-year attendance of over 6000 AINA members and fellow collectors of the area; the Bourse was sold out weeks ahead of the event. Of course what this means to you at this moment is that you should be planning your visit to New York for early May.

The recent period has been one of Membership renewal. But it has also been an eye-opener. The continued interest in the field of Israel numismatics has been most ably described by a recent newspaper story quoting Yitzhak Avni. This article is also in this issue of *The Shekel*. But the point I wanted to make is that clubs which started with a handful of members now count over 100 members. Clubs planned to be in the 75-100-member size have doubled their original estimates. This issue of *The Shekel* will have the largest circulation in our organization's history.

Who did it? YOU did it. We asked you to help DOUBLE AINA membership by bringing one new member to

AINA this year. A few of you misunderstood; and you brought one each week. For this you get extra shares of Love and Gratitude. It's easy to sign up a new member; the day before you go to your next meeting, invite someone to join you: a neighbor, a friend, a relative. If you live where you can't get to a meeting, share this copy of *The Shekel* with someone! Then tell them all the reasons for them to join AINA. Can you tell ALL the reasons in one minute? I can't. There are so many, I wind up making ANOTHER speech.

See you at the Convention!

Morris Bram, President

ISRAEL NUMISOCIETY OF BROOKLYN FIRST ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL



Size: 32mm diameter

4mm thickness

Weight: 250 grains

Metal: Sterling Silver

Mintage: 100 serially numbered
(hand engraved)

Minted by: The Franklin Mint

Finish: Proof condition

Edge: Reeded rim

Design: Obverse; Nathan Sobel
Reverse; Gilroy Roberts

Motif: Obverse; The famous Brooklyn Bridge hugging a Menorah, the official emblem of the Israel Numisociety of Brooklyn
Reverse; the Ten Commandments graced with two lions and a crown, and surrounded with a wreath.

A.I.N.A. - U.J.A. - F.J.P.
in joint action to
benefit ISRAEL EMERGENCY FUND

HOTEL PIERRE IN N. Y. TO BE CENTRE OF
NATIONWIDE AUCTION OF STAMPS AND COINS
ON MAY 22, 1974

A program of joint effort by the nation's leading philatelists and numismatists has resulted in a historic auction set for May 22th at the *Hotel Pierre* in New York of a vast variety of philatelic and numismatic items. AINA members are asked to plan now to make donations of items to benefit the *Israel Emergency Fund* of the *United Jewish Appeal*.

The membership of *A.I.N.A.*, the leading philatelists and numismatists of the *United Jewish Appeal* and of the *Federation of Jewish Philanthropies* will provide the auction merchandise and a catalog in advance of the event will permit bidding from across the nation for the unique event.

The *Coin Committee* includes Ben Stacks of *Stacks Coins and Stamps* and Robert Messing of the *Board of Directors of AINA*. The *Stamps Committee* includes Robert A. Siegel of *Robert A. Siegel, Inc.*; Jacques S. Minkus of *Minkus Publications and Stamp Co.*; Kurt Weishaupt of the *Kurt Weishaupt Stamp Co.*; and Julius Stelow of *J&H Stelow Co.*

Your contribution is being solicited by mail; your free catalog will permit you to participate in the auction as a bidder.

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